

Session title	Pond Detectives	
Key question	What lives in a pond?	
Session description	With a purpose-built raised pond teeming with life, WWT Arundel is one of the very best places in the country to come pond dipping. Sessions can be adapted to suit your needs, with a focus on one or more of the following: ▪ Identifying common pond animals. ▪ Food chains (to include the terms carnivore, herbivore and omnivore). ▪ Habitats.	
Key Stage suitability	KS1	
Duration	1 hour (a shorter 30-minute version is available with less dipping and observation time)	

Curriculum links	KS1 Science: ▪ Identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. ▪ Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other. ▪ Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats. ▪ Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food. ▪ Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring that grow into adults.		
Learning outcomes	Most learners will...	More able learners will...	
	▪ Be able to use pond dipping equipment safely and effectively to catch animals with minimal disturbance to the habitat. ▪ Understand that a freshwater pond is a home to lots of different animals. ▪ Be able to recognise an animal that lives in a pond habitat.	▪ Be able to recall the name of at least one pond animal. ▪ Be able to explain at least one adaptation for life in a pond. ▪ Understand that animals obtain their food from either plants, other animals or both.	
Key vocabulary	Pond Freshwater Habitat	Herbivore Carnivore Omnivore	Camouflage Nymph/larvae Adaptation

Session Outline	Time
Introduction	1 min
We welcome learners to the raised pond and introduce the key question.	
Activity 1: Health and safety briefing	6 mins
Learners are given a demonstration of how to use the pond dipping equipment, including important health and safety considerations.	
Activity 2: Pond dipping and identification	30 mins
Learners dip in the pond and identify the creatures they have found.	

Activity 3: Choosing an animal to observe more closely	10 mins
Learners observe their animals and identify one adaptation to life in the pond.	
Plenary	10 mins
Learners share the animal's name and adaptation with the group. They consider the importance of ponds and how we can help at home or at school.	